

## **Officium Parvum de Sancto Joseph**

### **Little Office of Saint Joseph**

#### **Ordinaria**

Salve Patriarcharum decus, et  
Ecclesiae sanctae Dei Oeconome,  
cui panem vitae et frumentum  
Electorum conservasti.

#### **Ad Matutinum**

**V.** Domine labia mea aperies.  
**R.** Et os meum annuntiabit  
laudem tuam.

#### **Ad Completorium**

**V.** Converte nos, Deus salutaris  
noster.  
**R.** Et averte iram tuam a nobis.

#### **Ad Horas Omnes**

**V.** Deus in adjutorium meum  
intende.  
**R.** Domine ad adjuvandum me  
festina.

**V.** Gloria Patri, et Filio, et  
Spiritui Sancto.  
**R.** Sicut erat in principio, et  
nunc, et semper, et in saecula  
saeculorum. Alleluja\*.

**\*A Septuagesima usque ad  
Pascha, loco Alleluia, dicitur**

Laus tibi, Domine, Rex aeternae  
gloriae.

#### **Ad Matutinum et Laudes**

#### **Start of all the Hours**

Hail, glory of the Patriarchs,  
steward of God's holy Church,  
who didst preserve the Bread of  
Life and the Wheat of the Elect.

#### **At Matins only**

**V.** O Lord, open my lips.  
**R.** And my mouth will announce  
Thy praise.

#### **At Compline only**

**V.** Convert us, O God our Savior.  
**R.** And turn away Thy wrath  
from us.

#### **At all the Hours**

**V.** O God, come to my aid.  
**R.** O Lord, make haste to help  
me.

**V.** Glory be to the Father, and to  
the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
**R.** As it was in the beginning, is  
now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Alleluia\*.

**\*During Lent until Easter,  
instead of the alleluia the  
following is said**

Praise to Thee, O Lord, King of  
everlasting glory.

#### **At Matins and Lauds**

MAGNE Joseph, Fili David,  
custos date Virginis,  
quem et Virgo nuncupavit  
patrem Christi Domini.

Qui fidelis Servus Dei  
datus es familiae,  
precor velis curam mei  
tamquam Pater gerere.

Ant: Constituit eum Dominum  
Domus suae, et Principem omnis  
possessionis suae. (Psalmus 104)

### **Ad Primam**

CUM ferentem castam Matrem,  
conspexisses uterum,  
et nescires tamen Patrem,  
cor gerebas anxium.

Sed de caelo mox instructus,  
posuisti dubium.  
Fac ut omnis meus luctus  
Transeat in Gaudium.

Ant: Joseph fili David, noli timere  
accipere Mariam conjugem  
tuam, quod enim in ea natum est,  
de Spiritu Sancto est. (Mt 1:20)

### **Ad Tertiam**

DUM in Bethlehem profecturus,  
pergeres cum Virgine,  
Deus nobis par futurus,  
natus est in tempore.

Quem in faeno collocatum,  
coluisti graviter:  
nunc in caelo elevatum:

MIGHTY Joseph, son of David,  
High and glorious is thy state:  
of our Lord the Foster-father,  
Mary's spouse Immaculate.

The Almighty's faithful servant,  
of the Holy Family,  
head and father. Oh! I pray thee  
be a father unto me.

Ant: He made him master of his  
house, and ruler over all his  
possessions. (Psalm 104)

### **At Prime**

SORELY was thy bosom troubled  
till the mystery was revealed  
which the Lord had wrought in  
Mary,  
who in patience all concealed.

But an angel soon from heaven  
bids thy loving doubts to cease.  
So may every care and trial  
turn for me to joy and peace.

Ant: Joseph, son of David, fear  
not to take unto thee Mary as thy  
spouse, for what is conceived in  
her is of the Holy Spirit. (Mt  
1:20)

### **At Terce**

WITH the Virgin, young and  
tender  
in the winter-time forlorn,  
thou to Bethlehem didst journey  
that our Lord might there be  
born.

As thy God thou didst adore Him,  
while He in the manger lay,  
now is He in heaven exalted:

ora pro me iugiter.

Ant: Ascendit Joseph a Galilaea de Nazareth, in Judaeam in civitatem David, quae vocatur Bethlehem, cum Maria desponsata sibi uxore praegnante. (Lc 2:4)

### **Ad Sextam**

VIM Herodis evasisti,  
monitus ab Angelo,  
in Aegyptum cum duxisti  
Virginem cum parvulo.

Per moerorem, quem tulisti,  
isto in exilio,  
cum gravabor hora tristis  
mihi sis auxilio.

Ant: Surge, et accipe Puerum et Matrem ejus, et fuge in Aegyptum, et esto ibi usque dum dicam tibi; futurum est enim, ut Herodes quaerat Puerum ad perdendum Eum. (Mt 2:13)

### **Ad Nonam**

EX Aegypto cum defessus,  
Galilaeam peteres,  
es in Nazareth digressus,  
ut securus degeres.

In florentis hortum mentis,  
amas Jesum ducere:  
da, florescat et mitescat,  
hortus animae.

turn to Him for us and pray.

Ant: Joseph went up out of Galilee from Nazareth into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, with Mary his espoused wife who was with child. (Lk 2:4)

### **At Sext**

FLEEING at the angel's warning,  
far from Herod's fury wild,  
long in Egypt didst thou tarry  
with the Virgin and the Child.

By thy toil, and pain, and  
sadness,  
In that exile dark and drear,  
Help me in the cares and  
sorrows  
Which may be my portion here.

Ant: Rise and take the Child and his Mother, and fly into Egypt, and be there until I tell thee; for it will come to pass that Herod will seek the Child to destroy Him. (Mt 2:13)

### **At Nones**

HOME from Egypt's land  
returning  
thou wouldst rest in Galilee,  
but to Nazareth art bidden,  
that the Child secure may be.

Souls retiring, sweet, and  
humble,  
thou dost still for Jesus seek:  
that my heart may be his garden,  
make it humble, pure and meek.

Ant: Et consurgens ex Aegypto,  
accepit Puerum et Matrem ejus,  
et venit in terram Israel, et  
habitavit in civitate, quae  
vocatur Nazareth. (Mt 2:23)

### **Ad Vesperas**

QUAM dolebas, cum quaerebas,  
doudennem Jesulum!  
Sed inventus et retentus,  
auxit illi gaudium.

Jesum, Lumen oculorum,  
fac me nunquam perdere:  
semper puritate morum,  
menti adsit integrae.

Ant: Fili! quid fecisti nobis sic?  
Ecce Pater tuus et ego dolentes  
quaerebamus Te. (Lc 2:48)

### **Ad Completorium**

INTER Jesu et Mariae  
manus integerrimas,  
spiritum emittis pie,  
hinc ad sedes superas.

Eia Jesu et Maria,  
te conjunge tertium,  
quando me suprema die  
mors citabit anxium.

Ant: In pace in idipsum dormiam  
et requiescam: quoniam Tu,  
Domine, singulariter in spe  
constituisti me. (Psalmus 4:9)

### **Conclusio Horae**

Ant: And rising up out of Egypt,  
he took the Child and his Mother  
and came into the land of Israel,  
and he dwelt in a city which is  
called Nazareth. (Mt 2:23)

### **At Vespers**

THOU didst search with loving  
anguish  
For the little Jesus lost!  
But, in finding Him, what rapture  
Purchased at that sorrow's cost.

Thee, my light, my life, my Jesus,  
May I never lose by sin:  
May my heart be pure and  
simple,  
So that thou may'st rest therein.

Ant: Son, why hast Thou done  
this to us? Behold, Thy father  
and I have sought Thee  
sorrowing. (Lk 2:48)

### **At Compline**

JESUS, Mary, hung above thee,  
on that sad, but happy day  
when, with their fond arms  
around thee,  
passed thy gentle soul away.

Oh! when death shall come to  
take me,  
all its terrors I'll defy,  
if, with Jesus and with Mary,  
thou, dear Joseph, wilt be nigh.

Ant: I will sleep in peace, and I  
will rest, for Thou, O Lord,  
singularly hast settled me in  
hope. (Psalm 4:9)

### **Conclusion of the above**

## Hours

**V.** Ora pro nobis beatissime Joseph.

**R.** Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi.

Oremus  
Sanctissimae Genetricis tuae  
sponsi, quaesumus, Domine,  
meritis adiuvemur, ut quod  
possibilitas nostra non obtinet,  
eius nobis intercessione donetur.  
Qui vivis et regnas Deus per  
omnia saecula saeculorum.  
**R.** Amen.

**V.** Domine, exaudi orationem meam.  
**R.** Et clamor meus ad te veniat.

**V.** Benedicamus Domino.  
**R.** Deo gratias.

**V.** Fidelium animae per  
misericordiam Dei requiescant in  
pace.  
**R.** Amen.

## Commendatio

CLIENS tibi dedicatus,  
solvit hoc Officium,  
eius votis tu vocatus,  
redde beneficium;

Ut post huius vitae metam,  
tuo patrocinio,  
tecum vivam vitam laetam  
caeli in palatio.

**V.** Pray for us, most blessed Joseph.  
**R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray  
O Lord, we beseech Thee, may  
we be assisted by the merits of  
the Spouse of thy most holy  
Mother, that what of ourselves  
we cannot possibly obtain, may  
through his intercession be  
granted to us by Thee, who livest  
and reignest God for ever and  
ever.  
**R.** Amen.

**V.** Lord, hear my prayer,  
**R.** And let my cry come unto Thee.

**V.** Let us bless the Lord.  
**R.** Thanks be to God.

**V.** May the souls of the faithful,  
through the mercy of God, rest in  
peace.  
**R.** Amen.

## Commendation, recited at the end of Compline

THUS, O glorious saint, my  
homage  
I thy grateful client pay.  
Hear my prayer and smile upon  
me,  
Guide and guard me on my way.

May I 'neath thy kind protection  
Safely reach my journey's close,  
And with thee in heaven's bright  
palace

Through eternity repose.  
Amen.